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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Room 222
Dockets File

8 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Olympia J. Snowe
House of Representatives
2268 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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FEB 11 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Congresswoman Snowe:

This is in reply to your letter of January 15, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Linda J. Griffin, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of users of private land mobile radio spectrum and the impact that these proposals may have on their radio systems, including the costs of required modifications.

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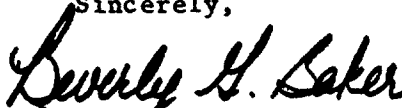
Honorable Olympia J. Snowe

2.

We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due February 26, 1993, and Reply Comments are due April 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued near the end of 1993. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ralph A. Haller", written in a cursive style.

Ralph A. Haller
Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosure:
Notice

Congressional

DUE 2-4-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
01/28/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300267	01/28/93	01/15/93	02/10/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congresswoman	Olympia Snowe	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Linda J Griffin	info/comments on a docket

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRE/Kmmj			
1-29-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
01/28/93			

REMARKS:

Attention: DON

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2268 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1902
(202) 225-6306

OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
2D DISTRICT, MAINE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1902

January 15, 1993

PRB
docket
267

DISTRICT OFFICES:
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(207) 786-2451
●
169 ACADEMY ST.
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769-0722
(207) 764-5124

The Honorable Alfred Sikes
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Sikes:

Enclosed please find a copy of a recent letter I received from
Linda J. Griffin of Jackman, Maine regarding FCC Docket #92-235.

As you can see, Ms. Griffin is quite concerned about the negative
impact that she feels the implementation of this regulatory
proposal will have on Maine's forest industry. I hope that the
FCC will give these concerns about this proposal the appropriate
review and consideration, as Docket #92-235 moves through the
regulatory process.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,


OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
Member of Congress
2nd District, Maine

OJS:dg
Enclosure

Attention: DON

DOC: _____
AIDE: _____
DATE: 1-85
ISSUE CODE: 21465

Linda J. Griffin
P. O. Box 214
Jackman, ME 04945-0214

December 28, 1992

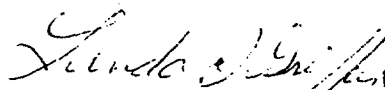
Dear Congresswoman Snow:

Implementation of a radical document just released by the F.C.C., P R Docket 92-235 will seriously impair the forest industry in Maine, the safety of its workers and the general public. This proposal would ruin the radio systems everyone depends on by reducing range, lessening reliability, increase interference, while costing a lot of money to alter equipment that the F.C.C. may end up phasing out.

You know how large and slimly populated a place northern Maine is. Job site and mills are widely separated. Private radio systems that took a lot of private money to install are now used to coordinate work and more important to communicate during emergencies like fire, lost people, and accidents in the woods and on the roads. Almost always first word to police and ambulances of a highway accident or moose-car collision comes over a private radio. Our area is not even served by cellular phone and that commercial system is too expensive for constant use.

In short, demand for radio frequencies is not a universal problem. Rules intended for heavily populated areas will not work in Maine. The forest industry needs to retain its own coordinator and protection of its present frequencies.

Sincerely,


Linda J. Griffin